GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3560
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2017
Protection of Tribal Rights in Mine Auction System
Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has brought changes in several laws to protect tribal rights to ensure that 130 mines are not auctioned again and remain with the earlier owners, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has changed the laws in the interest of mining companies in the name of protecting tribal rights, if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of mines auctioned after the enactment of Mines and Minerals Development Regulation Act and the revenue earned by the Union and the concerned States separately as a result of the same; and

(d) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government to safeguard the tribal rights in the mining areas of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): No Madam.
(c) The number of mines auctioned mineral-wise including the total estimated revenue after the enactment of MMDR Amendment Act, 1957 are as follows:

State	Number of Mines auctioned after the enactment of MMDR Act,	Mineral	Total estimated revenue (Rs. Crore)
Andhra Pradesh	1	Limestone	345
Chhattisgarh	2+1	2- Limestone 1- Gold	6800
Jharkhand	2+1	2-Limestone 1-Gold	210
Karnataka	7	Iron ore	34353
Madhya Pradesh	1	Diamond	38
Rajasthan	3	Limestone	17463
Odisha	1+1+1	1-Iron ore 1-Limestone 1-Manganese	14150
Total	21		73359

The entire revenue accrued by way of auction of these mines will be earned by the State Government concerned.

(d): The Government is committed to safeguard the tribal rights in the country including in the mining areas. The mining leases in the country are granted as per provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957. However, before starting of any mining activities, all statutory provisions as contained in various relevant Acts and Rules viz, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (40 of 1996); and the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007) are to be complied with.

As per section 4(k) of the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 the recommendations of the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be made mandatory prior to grant of prospecting licence or mining lease for minor minerals in the Scheduled Areas.

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